

AF/2814



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

MORISHITA, Yasuyuki

Serial No.: 09/619,669

Filed: July 19, 2000

For: AN INPUT/OUTPUT PROJECTION DEVICE FOR A SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box AF

Group Art Unit: 2814

Examiner: Nguyen, Dilinh P.

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 16, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please revise claims 1 and 21 to read as follows:

C1

1. (Amended) An input/output protection device for a semiconductor integrated circuit having a ¹substrate of a ^Pfirst conduction type, an internal circuit, an ⁸input/output terminal, electrode wiring, and signal wiring, said protection device comprising:

a ⁴first diffusion layer fabricated in a region of the ^Nfirst conduction type of the semiconductor substrate, the layer having a ^Nsecond conduction type opposite the first conduction type and being connected to the input/output terminal;

a ⁵second diffusion layer of the ^Nsecond conduction type being held at a predetermined potential; and

a ⁷third diffusion layer of the ^Nsecond conduction type fabricated at a bottom of the